



CHARGE MAXWELL CHAPLIN

9/21/77

LEGAL ATTACHE ROBERT W. SCHERRER

**ARGENTINE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS;
HORACIO D. LOFREDO**

Reference is made to captioned organization's letter directed to President CARTER dated 8/31/77, which was signed by LOFREDO. A copy of this letter is being circulated by the Political Section to various Embassy components. The following information is set forth with regard to the background of HORACIO D. LOFREDO, who has been identified by the FBI as being identical with HORACIO DANIEL LOFREDO, an Argentine-born naturalized U. S. citizen:

A Foreign Agents Registration Act FBI investigation was ordered during 1976 by the U. S. Department of Justice concerning LOFREDO, the Tri-Continental Film Center (TFC) and other individuals connected with the TFC, in order to ascertain whether a connection between the TFC and a foreign principal could be established.

FBI investigation established that LOFREDO is a Trustee of the TFC in New York City, and that he was previously connected with the TFC in California. The FBI identified TFC as the exclusive distributor of films shown by the Venceremos Brigade (VB). Additionally, the FBI ascertained that in early 1976 a contract was entered into by the TFC, represented by HORACIO LOFREDO and one other individual, and the Center for Cuban Studies (CCS) in New York City.

A characterization of the Venceremos Brigade is attached.

The CCS holds classes in New York City regarding the CASTRO revolution in Cuba and distributes literature and information, which is pro-CASTRO.

During 1972 LOFREDO told a source that the TFC in

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- POL/R
- MIL GROUP
- AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE
- ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR
- DAO
- RSO

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California and the Third World Cinema group were one and the same organization.

On 5/10/70, LOFREDO and three other individuals were stopped as they crossed the Canadian border in an automobile at Blaine, Washington, by officials of the U. S. Customs Service. LOFREDO admitted he was a member of the Venceremos Brigade and also confessed that two boxes of Marxist propaganda and literature discovered in the automobile by U. S. Customs were his property and had been brought from Cuba via Canada in order to further promote Venceremos Brigade activities in the United States.

FBI investigation confirmed that another trustee of the TFC was LEONORE CAROL DE CRUZ, a resident of the Oakland-Berkeley, California, area.

During October, 1976, an Argentine military intelligence agency requested FBI assistance in ascertaining the identity of an organization known as "OPBC," P. O. Box 1313, Oakland, California. The Argentine service noted that on 9/28/76, Argentine security forces raided an apartment in the Villa Luro section of the Federal Capital, which was occupied by high-ranking members of the Montonero terrorist organization. Several Montonero leaders were killed and others captured. A volume of important Montonero correspondence was recovered from the apartment. One document recovered was a copy of a letter directed to "OPBC," P. O. Box 1313, Oakland, California, 94609. This letter had been written by Montonero leader, JOSE MOLINAS BELUZZI, and was directed to an individual within the "OPBC" named RAQUEL (last name unknown). The letter requested that the "OPBC" institute various pressure tactics in the United States and to contact members of the Democratic Party in order to intensify pressure to force the Argentine Government to liberate terrorist prisoners in Argentina. Additionally, MOLINAS requested of RAQUEL that "you, in the United States, should arrange for political asylum for us (Montoneros) at the American Embassy in Buenos Aires by means of the pressure that you can apply there (in the United States)." In addition, MOLINAS commented that RAQUEL might further assist the Montonero cause by means of "pressure upon international organizations of solidarity when you travel outside the country (United States)."

The FBI conducted limited investigation in the United States at the request of the Argentine service in accordance with Attorney General of the United States guidelines for foreign counter-intelligence investigations based on the possibility that the subject of the investigation requested might be a foreign terrorist or connected with international terrorism.

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The identity of the subscriber to Post Office Box 1313, Oakland, California, was established as LEONORE CAROL DE CRUZ. DE CRUZ's connections with the TFC and LOFREDO surfaced during this investigation.

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